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GAIN Report Number: TH3045

Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

TH3045 – Domestic and export prices declined approximately 1-2 percent as the government is reportedly speeding up its rice stock sales. The government is estimated to hold total rice stocks of approximately 16 million metric tons milled rice.

Post: Bangkok

Author Defined: Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending May 7, 2013

Quality		Period Average							
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	1,175	-	1,145	-	1,140	1,125	-	1,146	1,154
WR 100 B	575	-	565	-	560	545	560	561	568
PB 100%	555	-	560		555	555	560	557	556
PB 5%	550	-	555	-	550	550	555	552	551
WR 5%	555	-	555	-	545	535	550	548	551
WR 10%	-	-	-	-	-	530	-	530	534
WR 15%	-	-	-	-	-	525	-	525	533
WR 25%	-	-	-	-	-	520	-	520	530
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	530	500	-	515	528
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_

Exchange rate: 29.4 baht/U.S.\$

Domestic and export prices declined approximately 1-2 percent due to the government stock sales. The government is reportedly speeding up its old-crop rice stock sales in the closed tenders due to limited financial resources to finance the current MY2012/13 Off-Season Rice Paddy Pledging Program. The program will cost approximately 105 billion baht (\$3.5 billion) for the pledging target of 7 million metric tons of paddy. The program, which began on April 1, 2013 and will runs until September 15, 2013, preliminarily received pledges of 2.0 million metric tons of paddy (1.3 million metric tons milled equivalent as of April 30, 2013), most of which was white rice paddy. Presently, the government is estimated to hold rice stocks of approximately 16 million metric tons milled rice, of which around 8 million tons (mostly white rice) are carry-over stocks from the previous pledging program; and the remainder is rice stocks from current pledging program. Also, the Thai baht has weakened further to 29.4 baht/US\$, as compared to 29.2 baht/\$ in the previous week.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial rice exports (excluding fragrant rice) for April 29 – May 5, 2013 totaled 39,819 metric tons,

^cource: Average actual prices received from exporters

down 37,226 metric tons from the previous week, and down 19,950 metric tons from the four- week moving average of 59,769 metric tons. Exports of white and parboiled rice from January 1 through May 5, 2013 totaled 1,379,754 metric tons, down 21.9 percent (1,766,728 metric tons) from the same period last year.

Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) from January 1 through March 31, 2013 amounted to approximately 1,543,953 metric tons, down 6.8 percent (1,655,747 metric tons) from the same period last year.

Table 2: W					
WEEK ENDING		4-WK.AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MII)	(MII)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Feb 17	72,171	\$9,537	583	561	3.9
Feb 24	97,713	\$\$,322	680	697	-2.4
Mar 3	\$9,84 3	\$7,105	770	784	-1.7
Mar 10	77,429	84,289	848	86 9	-25
Mar 17	67,626	\$ 3,153	915	980	-6.6
Mar 24	77,201	78,025	992	1,019	-\$.9
Mar 31	71,921	73,544	1,064	1,205	-11.7
Apr 7	76,336	73,271	1,141	1,321	-13.6
Apr 14	58,063	70,880	1,199	1,402	-14.5
Apr 21	64,148	67,617	1,263	1,509	-16.3
Apr 28	77,045	68,898	1,340	1,639	-18.2
May 5 ⁴	39,819	59,769	1,380	1,767	-21.9

Note on data: **Export figures since March 12, 2001, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports. The reporting authority was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/RKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand

End of report